

President's Sixth Anniversary

Q. This is your sixth anniversary. Has it been 6 years—

The President. It is my sixth anniversary, isn't it? They have been 6 very good years, very good years for our country. And as I tell everybody around here, even the bad days are good. It's an honor to serve, and my gratitude today is immense to the American people for giving me two chances to do this and for the good things that have happened in our country over the last 6 years.

I think we can look back over 6 years and think, if you had known 6 years ago that our country would be in the position it is today, I think we would have all been almost incredulous, but we would have been full of energy

and hope. I think it shows that if you just get a good team together and everybody works like crazy, and the American people do what they do, which is to get up every day and do their jobs, that good things can happen.

I'm just—I'm very grateful for these 6 years, and I'm grateful for the progress our country has made.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks. The related memorandum of November 6 on emergency disaster relief assistance for Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the Agreement on Fighting Sweatshop Practices

November 3, 1998

Today's agreement on fighting sweatshop practices is an historic step toward reducing sweatshop labor around the world and will give American consumers confidence that the clothes they buy are made under decent and humane working conditions. I applaud the apparel industry, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, and consumer groups who answered the challenge I laid out 2 years ago to find cooperative ways to reduce sweatshop labor.

This agreement is only the beginning. We know that sweatshop labor will not vanish over-

night. While this agreement is an historic step, we must measure our progress by how we change and improve the lives and livelihoods of apparel workers here in the United States and around the world. That is why I urge more companies to join this effort and follow these strict rules of conduct.

I want to thank all the parties who worked so hard to bring this agreement to a close, and especially Senator Tom Harkin, who first brought this issue to my attention a long time ago.

Statement on Signing the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998

November 3, 1998

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1260, the "Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998," (Uniform Standards Act).

This country is blessed with strong and vibrant markets, and they function best when corporations can raise capital by providing investors with their best, good-faith future projections. This legislation will help stabilize the enforcement scheme of the Private Securities Litigation

Reform Act of 1995 (the Reform Act) by ensuring that parties obtain the benefits of the protections that Federal law provides. The Uniform Standards Act reinforces our national capital markets by promoting uniform national standards for information generated for and used in national capital markets. If firms know that they can rely on the Reform Act's "safe harbor" for forward-looking information, they will provide